

# Blood flow of nanofluid through an artery with composite stenosis and permeable walls

R. Ellahi · S. U. Rahman · S. Nadeem ·  
N. S. Akbar

Received: 30 April 2013 / Accepted: 24 June 2013 / Published online: 22 November 2013  
© The Author(s) 2013. This article is published with open access at Springerlink.com

**Abstract** This problem deals with the theoretical study of blood flow of nanofluid through composite stenosed arteries with permeable walls. The highly nonlinear momentum equations of nanofluid model are simplified by considering the mild stenosis case. Temperature and nanoparticle equations are coupled; so, we use homotopy perturbation method to calculate the solution of temperature and nanoparticle equations, while the exact solution has been calculated for velocity profile. Also, the expressions for flow impedance, pressure gradient and stream function are computed. These solutions depend on Brownian motion number  $N_b$ , thermophoresis number  $N_t$ , local temperature Grashof number  $G_r$  and local nanoparticle Grashof number  $B_r$ . The effects of various emerging parameters are discussed through graphs for different values of interest.

**Keywords** Blood flow · Nanofluid · Artery with composite stenosis · Permeable walls

R. Ellahi (✉)  
Department of Mechanical Engineering, Bourns Hall A 373,  
University of California, Riverside, Riverside 92521, CA, USA  
e-mail: rellahi@engr.ucr.edu

R. Ellahi · S. U. Rahman  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics, FBAS, IIU,  
Islamabad 44000, Pakistan

S. Nadeem  
Department of Mathematics, Quaid-i-Azam University,  
45320, Islamabad 44000, Pakistan

N. S. Akbar  
DBS&H, CEME, National University of Sciences and  
Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan

## Introduction

In cardiac related problems, the effected arteries get hardened as a result of accumulation of fatty substances inside the lumen or because of formation of plaques. This accumulation of substances in arteries is known as stenosis. When a blood clot forms in an artery, blocking the blood flow to the heart muscle or the brain, a heart attack or stroke can follow. Most of the researchers believe that deposits of cholesterol, fatty substances, cellular waste products, calcium and fibrin may be responsible for the development of the disease. Regardless of the cause, it is known that once an obstruction has developed, it results in significant changes in pressure distribution, wall shear stress and impedance (flow resistance) (Mishra et al. 2011).

The vessel or arterial walls may be elastic, movable or permeable. Therefore to understand the mechanics of the circulation of blood, it would be a prerequisite to have a clear idea of the basic mechanics of fluids. Some of the basic studies dealing with different models of Newtonian and non-Newtonian fluid are given in Naz et al. (2008), Tripathi et al. (2010), Shukla and Rahman (1998), Hameed and Ellahi (2011) and Ellahi et al. (2012). A number of theoretical studies related to blood flow through stenosis arteries has been performed by Nadeem and Akbar (2009, 2011). Several investigators have highlighted different aspects of blood flow analysis in arteries. In a number of papers, Mekheimer and El kot (2012), and Mekheimer et al. (2012) have discussed the different aspects of blood flow analysis in stenosed arteries. Riahi et al (2011) have examined the problem of blood flow in an artery and in the presence of an overlapping stenosis. A mathematical study on three layered oscillatory blood flow through stenosed arteries has been investigated by Tripathi (2012). Recently, Mishra et al. (2011) have

studied the blood flow through a composite stenosis in an artery with permeable wall.

The aim of present paper is to study the effects of permeable walls along with slip on the blood flow of nanofluid through a composite stenosed artery. The non-dimensional governing equations in the case of mild stenosis and corresponding boundary conditions are prescribed and then solved by using homotopy perturbation method (HPM). The physical features of the major parameters have been discussed through graphs. Trapping phenomenon have also been discussed at the end.

### Formulation of the problem

Consider an incompressible nanofluid of viscosity  $\mu$  and density  $\rho$  flowing through a composite stenosed artery of finite length  $L$ . Let  $(r, \theta, z)$  be the coordinates of a material point in the cylindrical polar coordinate system where  $z$ -axis is taken along the axis of artery, while  $r, \theta$  are along the radial and circumferential directions, respectively.  $r = 0$  is taken as the axis of symmetry of the tube. Heat and mass transfer phenomena is taken into account by considering the temperature  $T_1$  and concentration  $C_1$  to the wall of the tube. At the centre of the tube, we consider symmetric conditions at velocity, temperature and concentration. The geometry of the arterial wall with composite stenosis is written mathematically as (Mishra et al. 2011)

$$R(z)/R_0 = 1 - \frac{2\delta}{R_0 L_0}(z - d); \quad d < z \leq d + L_0/2, \quad (1)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\delta}{2R_0} \left( 1 + \cos \frac{2\pi}{L_0}(z - d - L_0/2) \right); \quad d + L_0/2 < z \leq d + L_0, \quad (2)$$

$$= 1; \quad \text{otherwise.}$$

where  $d_0$  indicates the location,  $L_0$  denotes the length,  $\delta$  represents the height of the stenosis, while  $R_0$  and  $R(z)$  show the radii of the normal and stenosed arteries, respectively (see Fig. 1). The equations for unsteady flow of an incompressible nanofluid in the presence of body force are given by

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{V} = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\rho_f \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -\nabla P + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{f}, \quad (4)$$

$$(\rho c)_f \frac{dT}{dt} = k \nabla^2 T + (\rho c)_p [D_B \nabla C \cdot \nabla T + (D_T/T_0) \nabla T \cdot \nabla T], \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = D_B \nabla^2 C + (D_T/T_0) \nabla^2 T, \quad (6)$$

where  $c$  is the volumetric volume expansion coefficient,  $\mathbf{V}$  is the velocity vector,  $\mathbf{f}$  is the body force,  $d/dt$  represents

the material time derivative,  $P$  is the pressure,  $C$  is the nanoparticle phenomenon,  $D_B$  is the Brownian diffusion coefficient and  $D_T$  is the thermospheric diffusion coefficient. The ambient values of  $T$  and  $C$  as  $r$  tends to  $R$  are denoted by  $T_1$  and  $C_1$ . In component form, Eqs. (3)–(6) can be written as

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(rv)}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (7)$$

$$\rho \left( v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r S_{rr}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (S_{rz}) - \frac{1}{r} S_{\theta\theta} \quad (8)$$

$$\rho \left( v \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r S_{rz}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (S_{zz}) + \rho g \alpha (T - T_1) + \rho g \alpha (C - C_1), \quad (9)$$

$$\left( v \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) = \alpha \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right) + \tau \left[ D_B \left( \frac{\partial C}{\partial r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial z} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{D_T}{T_0} \left( \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right)^2 \right) \right] \quad (10)$$

$$\left( v \frac{\partial C}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial C}{\partial z} \right) = D_B \left( \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial C}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial z^2} \right) + \frac{D_T}{T_0} \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} \right) \quad (11)$$

where  $\tau = (\rho c)_p / (\rho c)_f$  is the ratio between the effective heat capacity of the nanoparticle material and heat capacity of the fluid.

$$S_{rr} = \frac{2\mu}{1 + \lambda_1} \left( 1 + \lambda_2 \left( v \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \right) \frac{\partial v}{\partial r},$$

$$S_{rz} = \frac{\mu}{1 + \lambda_1} \left( 1 + \lambda_2 \left( v \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \right) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right),$$

$$S_{zz} = \frac{2\mu}{1 + \lambda_1} \left( 1 + \lambda_2 \left( v \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + u \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}.$$

The boundary conditions for temperature and concentration are

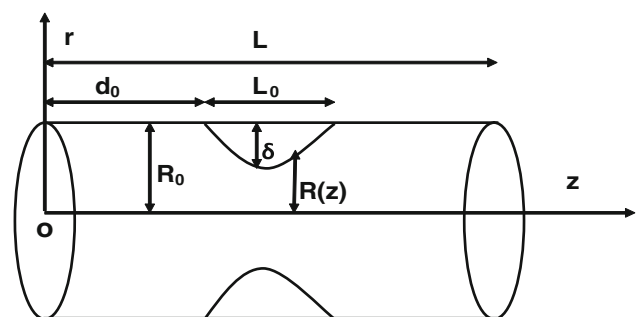


Fig. 1 Geometry of the composite stenosed artery

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial r} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial C}{\partial r} = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad r = 0 \quad (12)$$

$$T = T_1, \quad C = C_1 \quad \text{at} \quad r = R(z). \quad (13)$$

We introduce the following non-dimensional variables

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{r} &= \frac{r}{R_0}, \quad \bar{z} = \frac{z}{L_0}, \quad \bar{v} = \frac{L_0}{\delta U} v, \quad u = \frac{u}{U}, \quad \bar{d} = \frac{d}{L_0}, \\ \bar{R} &= \frac{R}{R_0}, \quad \bar{p} = \frac{R_0^2}{UL_0\mu} p \\ T &= T_1 + (T_0 - T_1)\theta, \quad C = C_1 + (C_0 - C_1)\sigma, \\ G_r &= \frac{\rho g \alpha_1 R_0^2 T_1}{\mu U}, \\ B_r &= \frac{\rho g \alpha_1 R_0^2 T_1}{\mu U}, \quad N_t = \frac{(\rho c)_p D_T T_0}{(\rho c)_f \alpha_1}, \quad N_b = \frac{(\rho c)_p D_T C_0}{(\rho c)_f \alpha_1}, \\ R_e &= \frac{\rho U R_0}{\mu} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where  $U$  is the velocity averaged over the section of the tube with radius  $R_0$ .  $N_t$ ,  $N_b$ ,  $G_r$  and  $B_r$  are the thermophoresis parameter, the Brownian motion parameter, local temperature Grashof number and local nanoparticle Grashof number. Making use of these variables in Eqs. (7)–(11) and after applying the additional condition  $\epsilon = R_0/L_0 = O(1)$  for the case of mild stenosis ( $\delta^* = \delta/R_0 < 1$ ), the non-dimensional governing equations after dropping the dashes can be written as

$$\delta^* \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} + \frac{v}{r} \right) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial r} = 0, \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right) + G_r \theta + B_r \sigma, \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) + N_b \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial r} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} + N_t \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right)^2 = 0, \quad (18)$$

$$N_b \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) + N_t \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) = 0. \quad (19)$$

The non-dimensional boundary conditions on velocity for permeable wall are (Mishra et al. 2011)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad r = 0 \quad (20)$$

$$u = u_B, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{D_a}} (u_B - u_p) \quad \text{at} \quad r = R(z). \quad (21)$$

where  $u_B$  is the slip velocity to be determined.

The non-dimensional conditions for  $\theta$  and  $\sigma$  are

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial r} = 0, \quad \text{at} \quad r = 0 \quad (22)$$

$$\theta = 0, \quad \sigma = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad r = R(z). \quad (23)$$

Eqs. (1) and (2) reduce to

$$R(z) = 1 - 2\delta(z - d); \quad d < z \leq d + 1/2, \quad (24)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\delta}{2} (1 + \cos 2\pi(z - d - 1/2)); \quad d + 1/2 < z \leq d + 1, \quad (25)$$

$$= 1; \quad \text{otherwise}$$

### Solution of the problem

The solutions of the coupled Eqs. (18) and (19) have been calculated by homotopy perturbation method (HPM) as

$$\begin{aligned} H(q, \theta) &= (1 - q)[L(\theta) - L(\theta_0)] \\ &+ q \left[ L(\theta) + N_b \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial r} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} + N_t \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(q, \theta) &= L(\theta) - L(\theta_0) + qL(\theta) \\ &+ q \left[ N_b \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial r} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} + N_t \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(q, \sigma) &= (1 - q)[L(\sigma) - L(\sigma_0)] \\ &+ q \left[ L(\sigma) + \frac{N_t}{N_b} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(q, \sigma) &= L(\sigma) - L(\sigma_0) + qL(\sigma_0) \\ &+ q \left[ \frac{N_t}{N_b} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial r} \right) \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where  $q$  is the embedding parameter which has the range  $0 \leq q \leq 1$ . For our convenience, we have taken  $L = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right)$ . The initial guesses  $\theta_0$  and  $\sigma_0$  are defined as

$$\theta_0(r, z) = \left( \frac{r^2 - R^2}{4} \right), \quad \sigma_0(r, z) = - \left( \frac{r^2 - R^2}{4} \right) \quad (30)$$

Define

$$\theta(r, z) = \theta_0 + q\theta_1 + q^2\theta_2 + \dots \quad (31)$$

$$\sigma(r, z) = \sigma_0 + q\sigma_1 + q^2\sigma_2 + \dots \quad (32)$$

Adopting the same procedure as done by Nadeem and Akbar (2011), the solution for temperature and nanoparticle phenomena for  $q = 1$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(r, z) &= \frac{1}{64} (N_b - N_t) (r^2 - R^2) - \left( \frac{1}{18} N_b (r^3 - R^3) \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{N_t}{36,864} (N_b^2 + N_t^2) (r^4 - R^4) (r^6 - R^6) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

$$\sigma(r, z) = -\frac{1}{4}(r^2 - R^2)\frac{N_t}{N_b} + \frac{N_t}{N_b}\left(\frac{1}{18}N_b(r^3 - R^3) + \frac{1}{36,864}(N_b^2 + N_t^2)(r^6 - R^6)\right). \quad (34)$$

Substituting Eqs. (32) and (33) in Eq. (17), the exact solution for velocity can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} u(r, z) = u_B + \frac{1}{4}\left(-\frac{\partial p}{\partial z}\right)(r^2 - R^2) + \frac{G_r N_b r^3}{162} + \frac{B_r N_t r^3}{36 N_b} \\ - \frac{B_r N_t r^4}{288} - \frac{G_r N_b r^5}{1,600} + \frac{G_r N_t r^5}{1,600} + \frac{G_r N_b^2 N_t r^{11}}{4,460,544} \\ - \frac{B_r N_b N_t^2 r^{11}}{4,460,544} - \frac{G_r N_t^3 r^{11}}{4,460,544} + \frac{B_r N_t^4 r^{11}}{4,460,544 N_b} \\ - \frac{G_r N_b r^2 R^2}{36} - \frac{B_r N_t r^2 R^2}{8 N_b} \\ + \frac{2(2G_r N_b^2 + 9B_r N_t)R^3}{81 N_b} + \frac{B_r N_t r^2 R^3}{36} - \frac{5B_r N_t R^4}{96} \\ + \frac{G_r N_b r^2 R^4}{128} - \frac{G_r N_t r^2 R^4}{128} \\ - \frac{G_r N_b^2 N_t r^7 R^4}{1,806,336} + \frac{B_r N_b N_t^2 r^7 R^4}{1,806,336} + \frac{G_r N_t^3 r^7 R^4}{1,806,336} \\ - \frac{B_r N_t^4 r^7 R^4}{1,806,336 N_b} - \frac{3G_r(N_b - N_t)R^5}{200} \\ - \frac{G_r N_b^2 N_t r^5 R^6}{921,600} + \frac{B_r N_b N_t^2 r^5 R^6}{921,600} + \frac{G_r N_t^3 r^5 R^6}{1,806,336} \\ - \frac{B_r N_t^4 r^5 R^6}{1,806,336 N_b} + \frac{G_r N_b^2 N_t r^2 R^{10}}{73,728} \\ - \frac{B_r N_b N_t^2 r^2 R^{10}}{73,728} - \frac{G_r N_t^3 r^2 R^{10}}{73,728} + \frac{B_r N_t^4 r^2 R^{10}}{73,728 N_b} \\ - \frac{N_t(N_b - N_t)(N_b + N_t)(G_r N_b - B_r N_t)R^{11}}{4,464,954 N_b}, \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} u_B = \frac{\sqrt{D_a} R^2}{\alpha} \left( \frac{1}{4R^2} \left( -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \right) (R^2 - 4\alpha\sqrt{D_a}) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{G_r N_b}{27} - \frac{B_r N_t}{6 N_b} + \frac{B_r N_t R}{24} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{G_r(N_b - N_t)R^2}{80} + \frac{N_t(N_b - N_t)(N_b + N_t)(G_r N_b - B_r N_t)R^{11}}{4,464,954 N_b} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

The flux  $Q$  can be calculated as

$$Q = 2 \int_0^R r u \, dr, \\ Q = \left( -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \right) \frac{1}{F(z)}.$$

Impedance  $\lambda$  is calculated as

$$\lambda = \frac{\Delta p}{Q},$$

since the flow rate  $Q$  is constant for all sections of tube

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{1}{Q} \int_0^L \left( -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \right) dz, \\ \lambda &= \int_0^d F(z) dz + \int_d^{d+1/2} F(z) dz + \int_{d+1/2}^{d+1} F(z) dz + \int_{d+1}^L F(z) dz, \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

$$\lambda = F(z)_{R=1}(L-1) + \int_d^{d+1/2} F(z) dz + \int_{d+1/2}^{d+1} F(z) dz, \quad (38)$$

The nonzero dimensionless shear stress in our problem is given by

$$S_{rz} = -\frac{R}{2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z},$$

The expression for wall shear stress can be calculated as

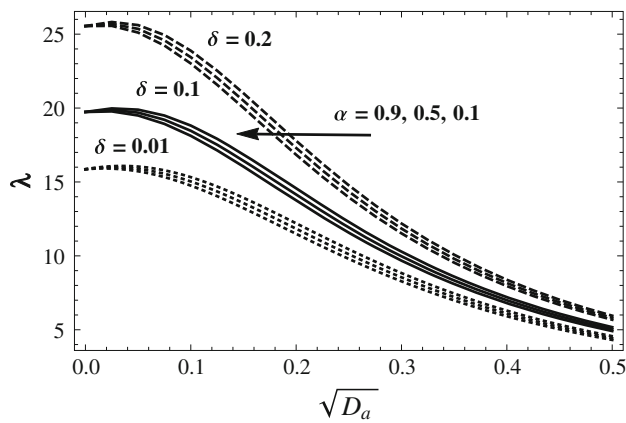
$$S_{rz} = -\frac{R}{2} \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \right)_{r=R}. \quad (39)$$

## Results and discussion

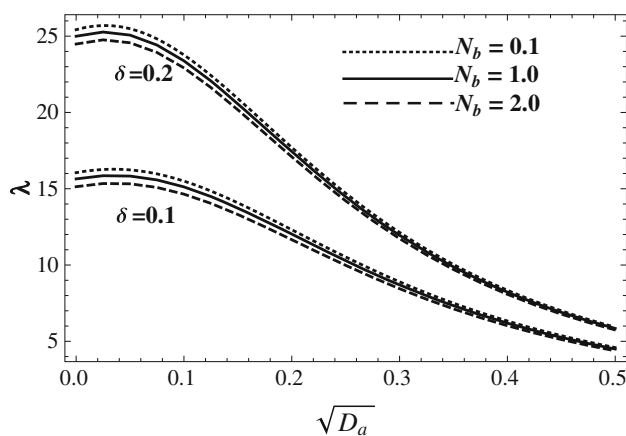
In this part of the article, we have examined the graphical features of pertinent parameters on the profiles of velocity ( $u$ ), concentration ( $\sigma$ ), temperature ( $\theta$ ), impedance ( $\lambda$ ), and shear stress ( $S_{rz}$ ). The observations are made for the variation of pertinent parameters to observe the effects for different sizes of stenosis. The graphs of impedance ( $\lambda$ ) are drawn against the Darcy number ( $\sqrt{D_a}$ ) and stenosis height ( $\delta$ ) for slip parameter ( $\alpha$ ) and Nussle number ( $N_t$ ). The velocity profile  $u$  is examined against radial coordinate  $r$  and the effects of ( $B_r$ ), ( $\alpha$ ), ( $G_r$ ) and ( $\sqrt{D_a}$ ) are discussed. Variation in concentration ( $\sigma$ ) is discussed for various values of ( $N_b$ ) and ( $N_t$ ). Influence on temperature profile ( $\theta$ ) is also examined for different values of ( $N_b$ ) and ( $N_t$ ). The streamlines are displayed in the end to investigate the flow pattern under the presence of different parameters to discuss the trapping bolus phenomenon.

### Impedance variation

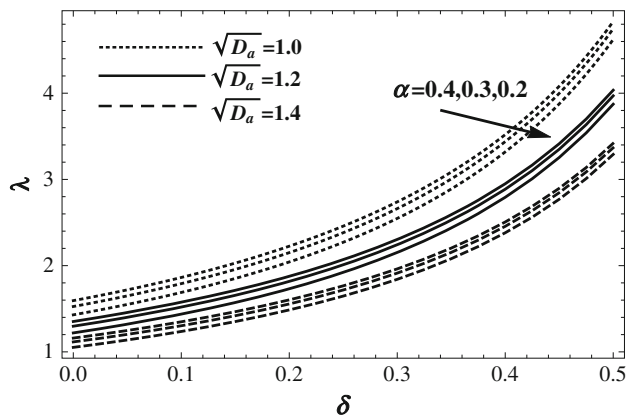
In Fig. 2, the impedance is plotted for the variation of the slip parameter  $\alpha$  against the Darcy number  $\sqrt{D_a}$  for different stenosis height  $\delta$ . It is revealed here that impedance of the flow is larger in the domain  $0 < \sqrt{D_a} < 0.2$  as compared to the rest of the region. It is also seen that



**Fig. 2** Variation in impedance  $\lambda$  against  $\sqrt{D_a}$  for  $\alpha = 0.1, 0.5, 0.9$  and  $\delta = 0.01, 0.1, 0.2$

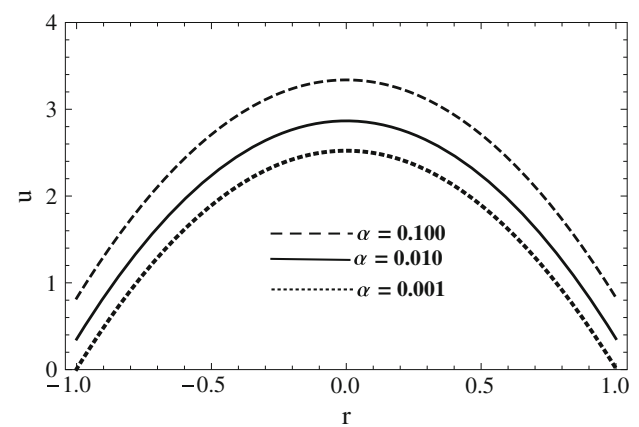


**Fig. 3** Variation in impedance  $\lambda$  against  $\sqrt{D_a}$  for  $N_b = 0.1, 1.0, 2.0$  and  $\delta = 0.1, 0.2$

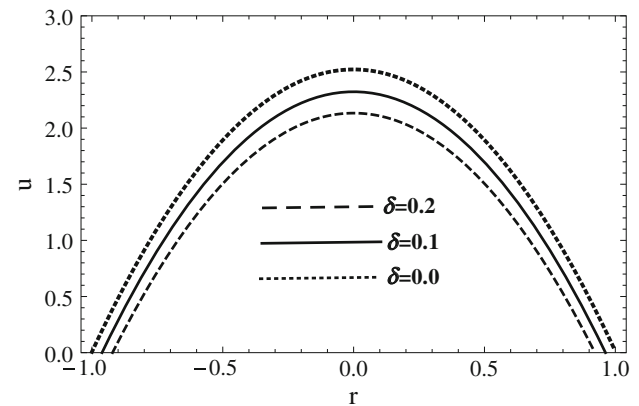


**Fig. 4** Variation in impedance  $\lambda$  against  $\delta$  for  $\alpha = 0.2, 0.3, 0.4$  and  $D_a^{1/2} = 1.0, 1.2, 1.4$

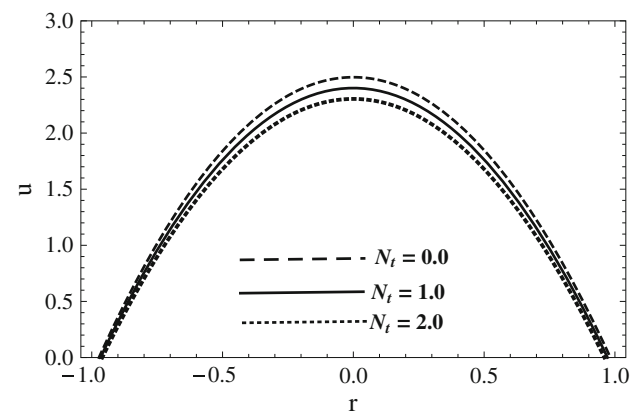
impedance is in direct relation with the variation of slip parameter for all values of  $\delta$ . The altitude of the impedance profile gets higher for larger values of  $\delta$ . One can see the



**Fig. 5** Variation in velocity  $u$  against radius  $r$  for slip parameter  $\alpha = 0.100, 0.010, 0.001$

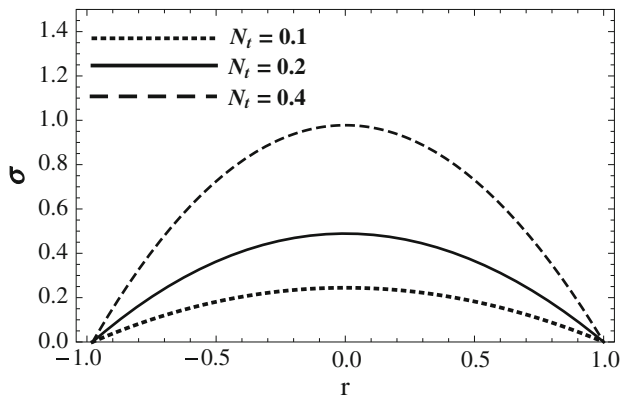


**Fig. 6** Variation in velocity  $u$  against radius  $r$  for stenosis height  $\delta = 0.0, 0.1, 0.2$

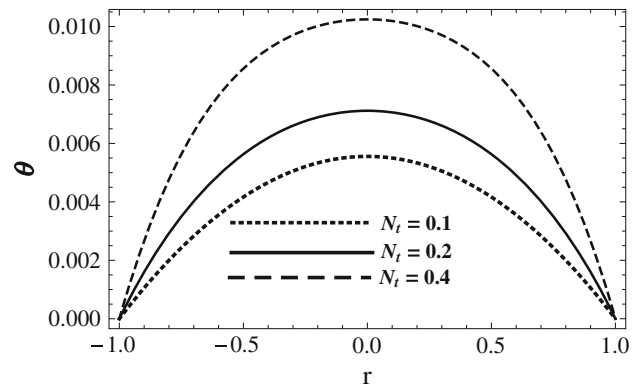


**Fig. 7** Variation in velocity  $u$  against radius  $r$  for  $N_t = 0.0, 1.0, 2.0$

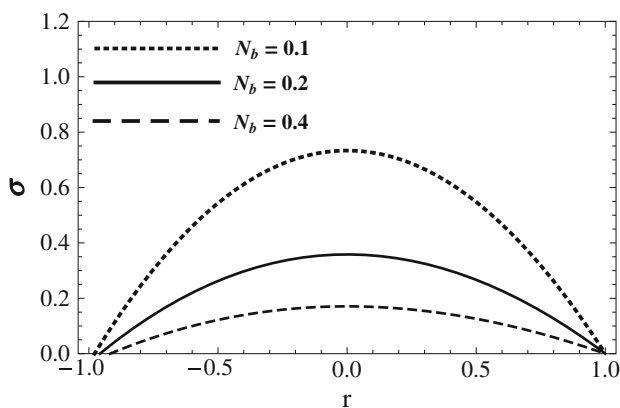
impact of  $N_b$  on the distribution of impedance against the Darcy number in Fig. 3. From this graph, it is measured that impedance increases with the decrease of  $N_b$ , but not much variation in the impedance is observed in the region



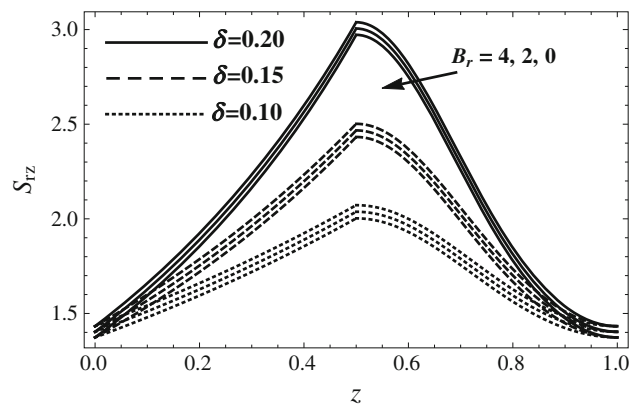
**Fig. 8** Variation in concentration profile  $\sigma$  against radius  $r$  for  $N_t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$



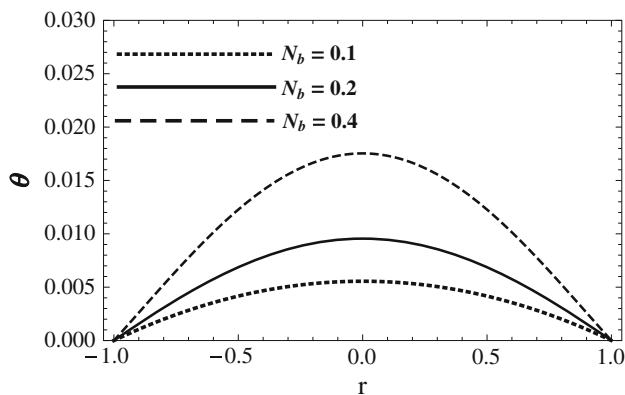
**Fig. 11** Variation in temperature profile  $\theta$  against radius  $r$  for  $N_t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$



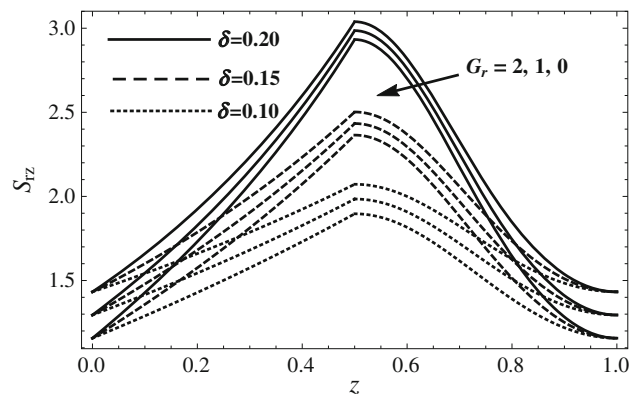
**Fig. 9** Variation in concentration profile  $\sigma$  against radius  $r$  for  $N_b = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$



**Fig. 12** Variation in stress  $S_{rz}$  against axial direction  $z$  for various values of  $\delta$  and  $B_r = 0, 2, 4$



**Fig. 10** Variation in temperature profile  $\theta$  against radius  $r$  for  $N_b = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$



**Fig. 13** Variation in stress  $S_{rz}$  against axial direction  $z$  for various values of  $\delta$  and  $G_r = 0, 1, 2$

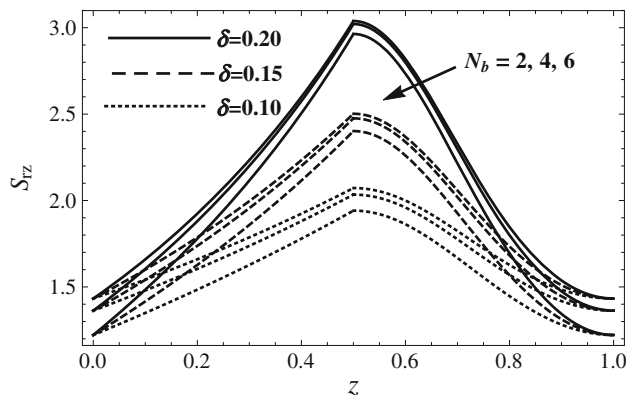
$0.4 < \sqrt{D_a} < 0.5$ . Figure 4 implies the influences of  $\sqrt{D_a}$  and  $\alpha$  on the impedance plotted along the stenosis height  $\delta$ . It is concluded here that impedance is very small in the region  $0 < \delta < 0.1$  and a significant variation is observed in the remaining part of the domain. It is also noted that with increase in  $\sqrt{D_a}$ , the impedance decreases.

#### The variation of velocity distribution

The velocity profile  $u$  for the slip parameter  $\alpha$  is presented in Fig. 5, plotted against the radial axis  $r$ . It suggests that velocity profile rises with the increase in slip parameter.



The variation of axial velocity profile  $u$  for  $\delta$  is described in Fig. 6 which indicates that for arbitrary stenosis height  $\delta$ , the apparent radius of the artery decreases from  $r$  to  $r - \delta$ . Figure 7 describes the profile of  $u$  for various values of  $N_t$ . Increasing values of  $N_t$  results in a decrease in velocity profile  $u$ .



**Fig. 14** Variation in stress  $S_{rz}$  against axial direction  $z$  for various values of  $\delta$  and  $N_b = 2, 4, 6$

The variation of concentration and temperature distributions

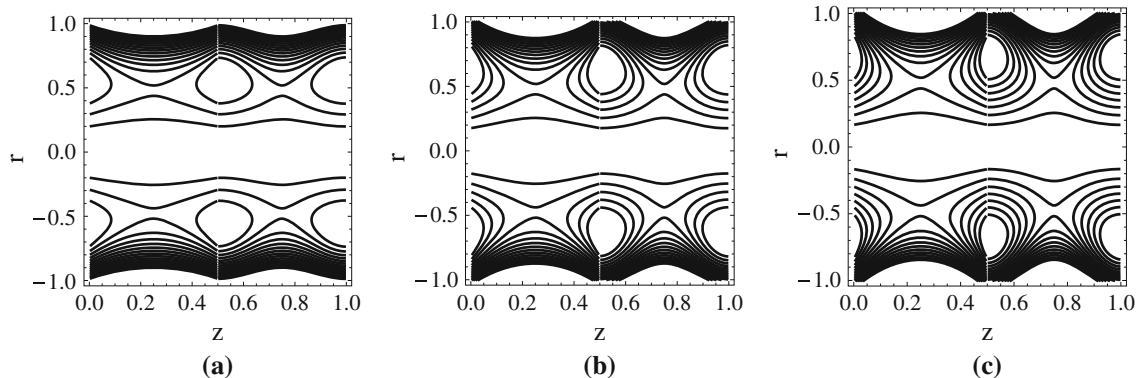
Effects of  $N_b$  and  $N_t$  on concentration  $\sigma$  and temperature  $\theta$  profiles are shown in plots 8–11, respectively. It is observed that by increasing  $N_t$ , the concentration profile increases and a decrease in the profile is seen by enhancing  $N_b$ . An increment in  $\theta$  is observed by increasing  $N_b$  and  $N_t$ .

#### Shear stress profile

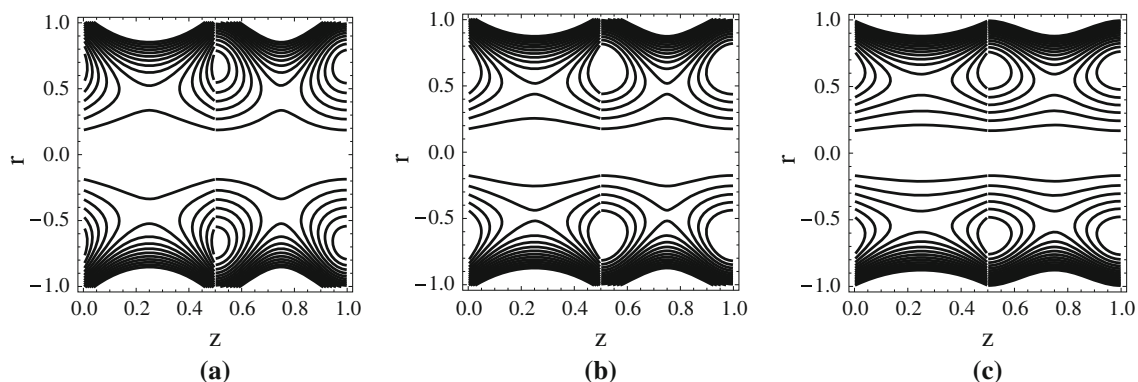
In Figs. 12, 13 and 14, the effects of different heights of stenosis on the shear stress distribution are analyzed for various values of  $B_r$ ,  $G_r$  and  $N_b$ , respectively. It is depicted that the stress is decreased by increasing  $N_b$ ; the inverse behavior is described for the stress profile in the cases of  $B_r$  and  $G_r$ . All of these figures show that stress is directly proportional to the stenosis height, i.e., if we increase the stenosis height, the stress will have a higher amplitude.

#### Trapping phenomena

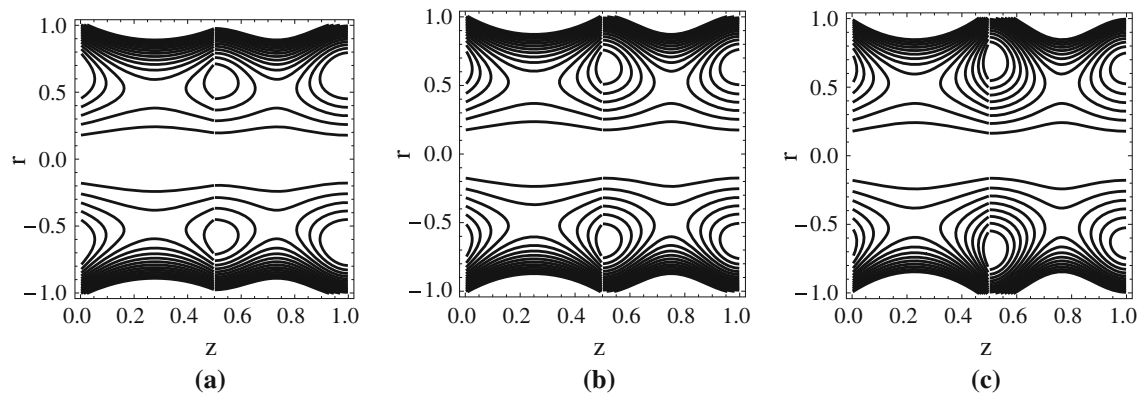
Figure 15 shows the streamlines for the slip parameter  $\alpha$ . It is seen here that as we increase the slip parameter, the area



**Fig. 15** Streamlines for  $\alpha$ . **a**  $\alpha = 0.01$ , **b**  $\alpha = 0.03$  and **c**  $\alpha = 0.05$



**Fig. 16** Streamlines for  $\sqrt{D_a}$ . **a**  $\sqrt{D_a} = 0.10$ , **b**  $\sqrt{D_a} = 0.15$  and **c**  $\sqrt{D_a} = 0.20$



**Fig. 17** Streamlines for  $\delta$ . **a**  $\delta = 0.10$ , **b**  $\delta = 0.15$  and **c**  $\delta = 0.20$

of the bolus expands but the number of bolus is increased. The variation of Darcy number  $\sqrt{D_a}$  for the streamlines is displayed in Fig. 16. It is to be noted that more boluses are obtained with the increase in magnitude of Darcy number, but the size of the bolus is diminished gradually. Figure 17 reveals the inverse behavior of streamlines with the variation of stenosis height  $\delta$  as observed in the previous figure for Darcy number.

**Open Access** This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License which permits any use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author(s) and the source are credited.

## References

- Ellahi R, Riaz A, Nadeem S, Ali M (2012) Peristaltic flow of Carreau fluid in a rectangular duct through a porous medium. *Math Prob Eng*. doi:10.1155/2012/329639
- Hameed M, Ellahi R (2011) Thin film flow of non-Newtonian MHD fluid on a vertically moving belt. *Int J Numer Methods Fluids* 66:1409–1419
- Mekheimer KH, Haroun MH, El kot MA (2012) Influence of heat and chemical reactions on blood flow through an anisotropically tapered elastic arteries with overlapping stenosis. *Appl Math Inf Sci* 6:281–292
- Mekheimer KH, El kot MA (2012) Mathematical modelling of unsteady flow of a Sisko fluid through an anisotropically tapered elastic arteries with time-variant overlapping stenosis. *J Appl Math Model* 36:5393–5407
- Mishra S, Siddiqui SU, Medhavi A (2011) Blood flow through a composite stenosis in an artery with permeable wall. *Appl Appl Math* 6(1):1798–1813
- Nadeem S, Akbar NS (2011) Power law fluid model for blood flow through a tapered artery with stenosis. *Appl Math Comput* 217:7108–7116
- Nadeem S, Akbar NS (2009) Influence of heat transfer on peristaltic transport of Herschel–Bulkley fluid in a non uniform inclined tube. *Comm Non Sci Numer Simul* 14:4100–4113
- Naz R, Mahomed FM, Mason DP (2008) Comparison of different approaches to conservation laws for some partial differential equations in fluid mechanics. *Appl Math Comput* 1:212–230
- Riahi DN, Roy R, Cavazos S (2011) On arterial blood flow in the presence of an overlapping stenosis. *Math Comp Model* 54:2999–3006
- Shukla PK, Rahman HU (1998) The Rayleigh–Taylor mode with sheared plasma flows. *Physica Scripta* 57:286–289
- Tripathi D (2012) A mathematical study on three layered oscillatory blood flow through stenosed arteries. *J Bionic Eng* 9:119–131
- Tripathi D, Pandey SK, Das S (2010) Peristaltic flow of viscoelastic fluid with fractional Maxwell model through a channel. *Appl Math Comput* 215:3645–3654